

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE NEWS FOR SUNDAY 2 JANUARY 2022

Good morning and welcome to the weekly news bulletin of the South African Radio League read by [your name, call sign and QTH]

The South African Radio League broadcasts a news bulletin each Sunday in Afrikaans and English at 08:15 and 08:30 Central African Time respectively on HF and various VHF and UHF repeaters around the country. The bulletin is relayed on Echolink by Johan, ZS6JPL. The audio bulletins can be downloaded from the League website at <http://www.sarl.org.za> while the text bulletin can be downloaded from <https://sarlnwsbulletin.wordpress.com>. To join the MailChimp bulletin mailing list, send an e-mail to the SARL Secretary.

In the news today:

ADVERTISING THE CONTESTS

SARL TROPHIES AND AWARDS

and

NEW LOW-POWER LIMIT FOR ARRL HF CONTESTS GOES INTO EFFECT ON 1 JANUARY 2022

Stay tuned for more information on these and other interesting news items.

We start the bulletin with news of a silent key.

It is with regret that we announce that the key of Douglas Stuart, ZR1DS went silent on Sunday 26 December 2021. We extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

PAUSE

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The President and Council of the SARL wishes all radio amateurs a Happy New Year, it is Council's wish that the year will be filled with success, good health and a lot of amateur radio activities.

ADVERTISING THE CONTESTS

Clubs and individuals who are the hosts of the contests in the 2022 Blue Book are requested to advertise the contest by submitting a news item to SARL News for at least 2 Sundays before the contest. Upload the news item, in English and Afrikaans, to www.sarl.org.za/NewsInbox.asp. Please refer to Rule 2 of the General Rules.

THE NARC IS CLOSED OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD

The SARL Office at the National Amateur Radio Centre is closed for the Christmas holidays and will reopen again on Monday 17 January 2022.

SARL TROPHIES AND AWARDS

On 2 November 2021, a SARL Communication was sent to members with information about the SARL Trophies and Awards, a call for motions for the 2022 AGM and nominations to serve on Council. This information is also in the November 2021, December 2021 and January 2022 issues of Radio ZS. To date, the SARL Secretary has received two award nominations, three nominations to serve on Council and no motions for the AGM. Is there a Club willing to host the 2023 National Convention? Please do not wait until Sunday 30 January 2022 to submit your motion or nomination - do it now!

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League.

THE CQ DX MARATHON

The CQ DX Marathon is a year-long DX hunt, with participants competing to see who can work the greatest number of countries ("entities") and CQ zones during the calendar year. The 2022 edition started at 00:00 UTC on 1 January and will end at 23:59 UTC on 31 December. Complete details can be found at www.dxmarathon.com/.

NEW LOW-POWER LIMIT FOR ARRL HF CONTESTS GOES INTO EFFECT ON 1 JANUARY 2022

The ARRL has set a new standard for what counts as low power for ARRL-sponsored HF contests. The new limit is 100 W, which is down from the 150 W limit that has been permitted in some events, including the ARRL November Sweepstakes. With the exception of the ARRL Field Day, this change goes into effect on 1 January 2022, for all ARRL-sponsored HF contests, as well as the IARU HF World Championship in July 2022.

This change has been implemented to standardize low-power categories within the contesting community. However, on a more practical level, the typical modern HF transceiver has a maximum power output of 100 W.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at moderate levels. There are currently a number of sunspot regions visible, some C-class or M-class flaring can be expected. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 77. The 10 to 30 m bands will provide some good DX fun. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

Finally, a diary of some upcoming events:

3 and 4 January – the Quadrantids Meteor showers

6 January – the closing date for Straight Key Logs

12 January – the inland schools open

14 to 16 January – the PEARS National VHF/UHF contest

19 January – the coastal schools open and the SARL 80 m Wednesday Club contest

22 January – the Summer QRP contest

24 January – the closing date for Club contest logs

26 January – the Sandton ARC Talking Tech Power Hour

27 January – the closing date for QRP logs

31 January – the closing date for AGM motions, Award nominations and Council nominations

1 February – the Registration for May RAE opens

5 February – the SARL VHF/UHF FM Activity Day

6 February – the AWA CW Activity Day

To conclude our bulletin, a recap of our main news story:

Clubs and individuals who are the hosts of the contests in the 2022 Blue Book are requested to advertise the contest by submitting a news item to SARL News for at least 2 Sundays before the contest. Upload the news item, in English and Afrikaans, to www.sarl.org.za/NewsInbox.asp. Please refer to Rule 2 of the General Rules.

This concludes our bulletin for this morning.

We invite clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners, in both English and Afrikaans, if possible, by following the News Inbox link on the South African Radio League web page. News items to be included in the bulletin should reach the news team no later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

You are welcome to join us every Sunday morning for the weekly radio programme, Amateur Radio Today at 10:00 CAT. The programme can be heard on VHF and UHF repeaters countrywide and on 7 082 kHz lower side-band by courtesy of Louis, ZS5LP. A rebroadcast by Andy, ZS6ADY, can be heard on Monday evenings at 19:30 CAT on 3 620 kHz.

We welcome your signal reports, comments and suggestions; please send these by e-mail to artoday@sarl.org.za.

You have listened to a news bulletin written by Andy Cairns, ZS6ADY, proof-read by Paul Johnson, ZS1S and read by

From the news team, best wishes for the week ahead.